REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the indication that claims 19 and 21-27 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 1, 3-6, 8-12, 14-18, 20, 22, 24, and 26 remain pending in the instant application. Claims 1, 3-6, 8-12, 14-18, and 20 presently stand rejected. Claims 1, 4, 10, 15, 16, 17, 18, 20, 22, 24, and 26 are amended herein. Entry of this amendment and reconsideration of the pending claims are respectfully requested.

Drawings

Applicants mailed formal drawings to the Official Draftsperson on February 25, 2003. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request an indication from the Examiner whether the formal drawings mailed on the above date are accepted. If the above mentioned formal drawings have not been received by the Official Draftsperson, then Applicants request an indication thereto and will resubmit the formal drawings upon such notification.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 3-6, 8 and 9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,363,515 to Rajgopal et al. ("Rajgopal") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,828,579 to Beausang.

"To establish prima facie obviousness of a claimed invention, all the claim limitations must be taught or suggested by the prior art. All words in a claim must be considered in judging the patentability of that claim against the prior art." M.P.E.P. § 2143.03.

Amended independent claim 1 now recites, in pertinent part, "reporting results of the simulating indicating whether any of the domino logic circuits is likely to generate an erroneous output...." Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of Rajgopal and Beausang fails to disclose the aforementioned elements of claim 1. In fact, independent claim 1 now recites the elements of previously objected to claim 19. The Examiner indicated that claim 19 "would be allowable if rewritten in independent

form...." *Office Action* mailed March 31, 2003, page 12, section 6. Accordingly, Applicants request that the instant § 103 rejection of claim 1 be withdrawn.

Amended independent claim 4 now recites, in pertinent parts, "determining whether any of the domino logic circuits is likely to generate an erroneous output." Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of Rajgopal and Beausang fails to disclose the aforementioned elements of claim 4. Claim 4 now includes elements of previously objected to claim 21. Accordingly, Applicants request that the instant § 103 rejection of claim 4 be withdrawn.

Claims 10-12 and 14-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rajgopal in view of Beausang and if further view of U.S. Patent No.: 5,999,714 to Conn et al. ("Conn").

Amended independent claim 10 now recites, in pertinent parts, "determining whether any of the domino logic circuits is likely to generate an erroneous output." Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of Rajgopal, Beausang, and Conn fails to disclose the aforementioned element of claims 10. Claim 10 now includes similar elements of previously objected to claim 23. Accordingly, Applicants request that the instant § 103 rejection of claim 10 be withdrawn.

Amended independent claim 15 now recites, in pertinent part, "reporting results of the simulating indicating whether any of the domino logic circuits is likely to generate an erroneous output." For the reasons discussed above, Applicants request that the § 103 rejection of claim 15 be withdrawn.

Amended independent claim 17 now recites, in pertinent part, "means for reporting results of the means for simulating, the results indicating whether any of the domino logic circuits is likely to generate an erroneous output." For the reasons discussed above, Applicants request that the § 103 rejection of claim 17 be withdrawn.

Dependent claims 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 11, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, and 26 are nonobvious over the prior art of record for at least the same reasons as discussed above in connection with their respective independent claims, in addition to adding further limitations of their own. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the instant § 103 rejections for claims 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 11, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, and 26 be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants believe the applicable rejections have been overcome and all claims remaining in the application are presently in condition for allowance. Accordingly, favorable consideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned representative if the Examiner believes that an interview might be useful for any reason.

CHARGE DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

It is not believed that extensions of time are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a). Any fees required therefore are hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-2666. Please credit any overpayment to the same deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY SOKOLOFF TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Date: June 23, 2003

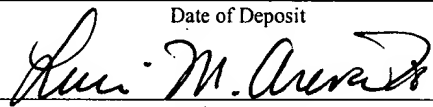Cory G. Claassen
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

on _____June 23, 2003_____
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Luci M. Arevalo   June 23, 2003
                                              Date